

# Soldier Summit to Lose Status

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*4-25-84*  
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Soldier Summit is scheduled to lose its city status today with a signed order by Fourth District Judge George E. Ballif.

Ballif is expected to sign a stipulation today which would disincorporate the city, once a booming railroad center, but now inhabited by only 11 residents.

The matter must now be advertised for four consecutive weeks before the disincorporation becomes final.

The disincorporation issue came to a head two years ago when the city, which lies in Wasatch County at the head of Spanish Fork Canyon, annexed some 4,000 acres of property across the county line into

Utah County to allow development of recreational lots.

"Since the land was within the city limits of Soldier Summit, Utah County had no jurisdiction to control the type of development that occurred there," said Guy Burningham, Deputy Utah County Attorney.

He pointed out that Soldier Summit imposed no mill levy to collect property taxes, and provided no services. If the platted subdivisions were developed, there could be no road maintenance, no police services, no sewage or sanitary facilities, even though the land lay within Utah County.

He said the City-County Health Department of Utah County could have had no supervision over septic tank installations or sanitary facilities.

The stipulation prepared by Burningham has approval of Wasatch County Commissioners, Utah County Commissioners, and Mayor Don Chambers of Soldier Summit.

Once the disincorporation is in effect, Utah County will then establish a Special Service District which will overlap into Wasatch County. The district's administrative board will consist of one county commissioner from each county, plus Chambers.

Burningham emphasized that the Special Service District will have the power to impose a mill levy and collect taxes to pay for any services required.

"If people move in, the district can handle the plotting of land, installation of public facilities, construction and main-

tenance of roads, etc." Furthermore, the Health Department can now issue permits for septic tanks, or a sewer district can be created to protect downstream waterusers in Utah County, he said.

Utah County Planner Buck Rose said Soldier Summit has agreed to release claims it had on 400 lots within its expanded boundaries. The new Service District will handle 154 lots which have already been platted and recorded.

Burningham, who has worked on the disincorporation for two years, says he is satisfied the move is in the best interests of Utah County.

"We will now have some control over what type of development occurs within our borders," he said.